

ShopTalk

Greenville Woodworkers Guild

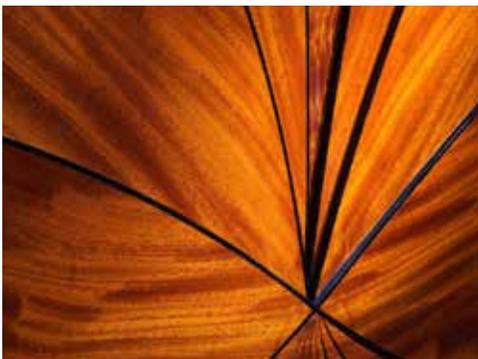


April 2024

**Join us at our Monthly Meeting
on Monday, April 1, at 6:30 pm
to welcome back Tom McLaughlin
of Epic Woodworking.**

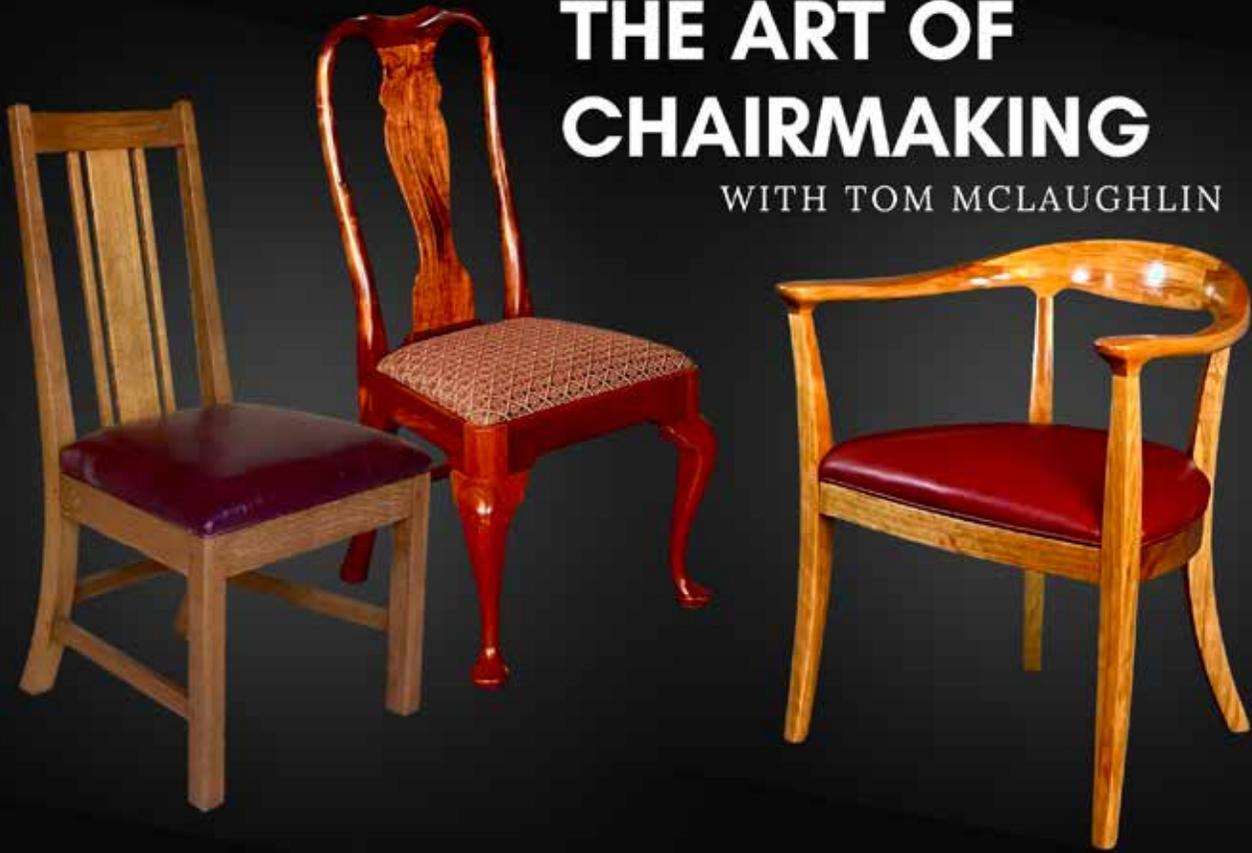
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*Tom will be presenting
Grain Graphics,
exploring ways of
handling and thinking
about wood grain to
enhance the visual
impact of your projects.
Photos and technique
demonstrations will
be included, while
considering creative
directions using solid
wood, veneers, and
finish treatments.”*



THE ART OF CHAIRMAKING

WITH TOM MCLAUGHLIN



Tom McLaughlin apprenticed in the early 1990s with Master Craftsman P.A. “Pug” Moore of Rocky Mount, NC. Over his 30+ year career, he has designed and built custom pieces for clients seeking to own pieces that are as much a work of art as they are functional.

Tom is a 25-year member and former Chairman of the New Hampshire Furniture Masters. His work has become recognizable for its dramatic use of figured wood, creating a sense of movement in each piece. Tom can be seen hosting on repeat episodes of *Classic Woodworking with Fine Woodworking* on PBS TV. He is a frequent contributor to *Fine Woodworking Magazine*.

In 2016, Tom shifted his focus from commission work to teaching on his *Epic Woodworking* platform. He and his wife, Kris, enjoy furthering the craft by providing resources and instruction for all levels through a free weekly livestream, *Shop Night Live*, on YouTube, online courses and in-shop classes at his shop in Canterbury, NH. They also offer a community membership experience, *The Neighborwood*, which brings together woodworkers from all over the world to expand skills and inspire creativity.



In addition to presenting at our Monthly Meeting, Tom will be conducting an all-day seminar on Tuesday, April 2, on *The Art of Chairmaking*. He will introduce and attempt to simplify chairmaking, which is considered to be one of the most challenging woodworking projects. There will be plenty of practical examples and demonstrations of the approach to making great chairs, as well as time for Q & A throughout the day. To register for the seminar, log into the Guild’s website, Members Only, Classes/Events Calendar.



Charlie LeGrand
President



T H E P R E S I D E N T ' S C O R N E R

The Meyer Center for Special Children

This year marks the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the Meyer Center for Special Children. The Greenville Woodworkers Guild has been involved with the Meyer Center from the beginning of the Guild, now almost 43 years.

The Meyer Center began in 1954 and was born out of the vision of Dr. Leslie Meyer: “In the right environment, any child can learn.” The Meyer Center is dedicated to enriching the lives of children with disabilities so that they might reach their full potential. Children who attend the Meyer Center have various disabilities including Rett Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, sensory processing disorder, and others. After an evaluation, children receive occupational, physical, and speech therapy. The Meyer Center is now a charter school with 108 students in 11 classrooms in its facility on Rutherford Road. Children and families are never turned away for lack of finances.

Shortly after the Guild was formed in 1981, the founding members were looking for a local charity which could be the beneficiary of our charitable

outreach. In his book, *Going With The Grain*, Aubrey Rogers quotes Arthur Welling, one of the founding members of the Guild, as he told the story of the visit to the Meyer Center.

We visited a number of different charitable groups and finally arrived one afternoon at the Meyer Center to meet with the director. A young girl came wheeling into the meeting room on a trolley.



The director quietly told her that she was interrupting a meeting, but the girl stayed and smiled. It melted our hearts. It changed the attitude of everyone, no longer just focusing on our business interests. Everyone was crying, Clayton was a mush. And this is why we have a Guild today. We needed the Meyer Center as much as they needed us. Before departing, we were all on the floor, rolling around, and playing with all the children. (Emphasis added)¹

The Guild helped the Meyer Center with fundraising, including donating items for their fundraisers. Most impressive is that Guild members designed and built special chairs, step-stools, and training aids for the students. The Meyer Center continues to be our main charitable effort. Take a look at the charities tab on our website; scroll to the Meyer Center tab. You will see photographs going back many years, including a number of built-in cabinets, free-standing cabinets, and special chairs for the children. Guild members also designed and built two freestanding therapy platforms, which have steps on one side and a ramp on the other side. More recently, our charity team built a rainbow panel, a sensory panel, and a bridge for the playground. Of course, our toy program has supplied countless toys for disabled children every year.

For more information on the Meyer Center, visit their website at www.meyercenter.org. Donations to the Meyer Center can be made in honor of the Greenville Woodworkers Guild charity program, and the total will be reported back to the Guild (use their regular Donate button, select “Initiative,” then “Honorary”).

¹ Aubrey Rogers, *Going With The Grain, A Story of The Greenville Woodworkers Guild (Greenville, SC: Community Journals, LLC) pp5-6.*

Notification of Election of Officers

In accordance with Policy 9 - Election of Directors and Officers, please be advised that the annual election of Directors and Officers of the Greenville Woodworkers Guild will be held during the Annual Membership Meeting that will take place on May 6, 2024 at 6:30 PM in the GWG Auditorium.

Charles A. Graham, Jr.
Secretary to the Greenville Woodworkers Guild

Charitable Projects – February 2024

	Members	Hours
Homes of Hope Cabinets	5.....	140
Meyer Center	2.....	21
Member Sponsored Charity Projects	2.....	18
Beads of Courage	3.....	12
Toy Program	1.....	8

Welcome New Members!

Jim B. Barrett Seneca SC
 Chris Beard Greenville SC
 John Beard Simpsonville SC
 Devin Darnell Simpsonville SC
 Nicholas Feigl Simpsonville SC
 Choyce Finley Fountain Inn SC
 Jimmy Gaumont Greenville SC
 Tammy Hoyler..... Simpsonville SC
 Kristina Jennings Greenville SC
 Dan Manis Taylors SC
 Peter Moersen Greenville SC
 Carolina Moncada-
 Gaumont..... Greenville SC
 Brandon Perdue Simpsonville SC
 Wendy Reynolds..... Greenville SC



2024 Toy Program Launches April 16!

Yes, it's that time again – time to start making toys! As most of you probably know, each year Guild members make toys for over 14 organizations in our communities. The variety of toys is a function of the imagination and skill of the members who work on this important charitable project.

If you are new to the Guild and woodworking, the Toy Program is a great opportunity to improve your skills. If you are an experienced woodworker, thank you in advance for helping to mentor other team members. Regardless of your skill level, the program is a great way to share fellowship at the Guild and give back to the organizations that are so important to our communities.

Leaders for the program are John Arnold, Rob Barhorst, and George Wells. This year, we will kick off the program at the Guild on Tuesday, April 16, at 9:00 AM. We will get acquainted, go over some ground rules, answer questions you may have, and organize the toy room.

We will meet every Tuesday from 9 AM to 12 Noon through October. In addition, some members will be working on toys in their own shops. Whether you decide to work at the Guild or in your shop, we welcome your support and look forward to seeing you on April 16!



From your Lumber Team

Items from three consignment sales are available in the lumber room right now! Check out some really good deals on cedar, pecan slabs, and red oak, as well as some rough pine.

Lumber and Turning Stock Clearance! Don't forget the Tool Sale on Saturday, April 20. There will be deep price mark downs on older stock that we want to liquidate and 25-50% OFF on all turning stock.

All of these specially-priced items will be available to Guild members starting on Wednesday, April 17, so members can have first pick prior to the sale on Saturday. Don't forget to check out these deals; they won't last long.



Homes of Hope Project

The charitable projects team has been working diligently over the past three months building 19 cabinets for the Homes of Hope charity organization. Homes of Hope is a 501c3 organization whose mission is “To open doors to economic mobility through housing, economic and workforce development.”

Our team has been working long hours, building custom-made solid maple cabinets and two lazy Susans under the guidance of Jon Rauschenbach. With this project, many of the team members learned about the layout, construction details, and installation of fine cabinetry. The team put in a total of 562 man-hours!

Many thanks to the team members: Jon Rauschenbach, Dick Best, Pier DeJong, Marion DeWitt, Bob Gasperik, Joe Herbert, Larry Kolstad, Sayle Lewis, Craig McKee, Jim Smith, Scott Stofan, and John Wozniak.



RULES FOR STAYING SAFE

RULE:

No Southern yellow pine in the shop. Eastern White Pine is permissible.

RATIONALE:

Southern Yellow Pine contains rosin, which is sticky. The rosin gums up teeth and blades on the equipment, requiring cleaning with a solvent and scrub brush. The rosin sticks to parts of the dust collection system, especially the angles and junctions in the dust collection system. Once the rosin is stuck at these junctions, it collects chips and dust from other species of wood, thus compounding the problem.



Spring Tool Sale!

The Spring Tool Sale is scheduled for Saturday morning, April 20. There will be equipment and tools from seven full shops, as well as from numerous single item sellers. The Tool Team is busy adding to the inventory. We have a great collection of shop equipment and a wide array of every imaginable woodworking, mechanics, and lawn tool. The inventory is updated a few times each month and is linked to the Guild's website.

We are no longer picking up items for the April Sale, as we are focused on preparations for the sale and our current inventory has consumed nearly all of our storage capacity. However, if you have a few items you would like include in the sale, we will accept them until April 6. Please contact Scott Stofan as soon as possible at shstofangwg@gmail.com.

In addition to buyers getting great value for every dollar spent on tools, it is important to highlight that the Tool Sale is one of the means for generating funds to support the mission of the Guild. So, plan on coming to the sale and bring friends! Doors open at 8:00 a.m., with access to inventory at 8:30, and the silent bid deadline at 10:30 a.m. There will be coffee and doughnuts, as always!



UPCOMING - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

April 1 Monthly Meeting with Tom McLaughlin of Epic Woodworking
Grain Graphics - Handling Wood Grain to Enhance Your Projects

Annual Birdhouse Contest

April 2 Seminar presented by Tom McLaughlin
Simplifying the Art of Chairmaking

April 16 Kick-off Meeting for the 2024 Toy Program

April 20 Spring Tool Sale/Auction

May 6 Monthly Meeting with Guild member Barry Jones
Use of the Laser Engraving/Cutting Machine

Election of Guild Officers & Directors

May 17 – 19 Shop Clean-Up

June 2 Annual Guild Picnic

July 8 Monthly Meeting

August 5 Monthly Meeting with Megan Fitzpatrick - Woodworking Teacher,
Blogger, Editor, and Writer

August 6 – 8 Three Day Seminar Presented by Megan Fitzpatrick
Building a Saw Bench with Hand Tools

September 9 Monthly Meeting with Guild member Bill Fuller
Building Guitars

Look for more details in future emails and newsletters!

Show Us Your Shop

Welcome to Show Us Your Shop! It is our hope that it will become a regular feature in our newsletter. We welcome your pictures and willingness to share your shop with fellow members. Feel free to submit your photos with a brief description and your contact information to Butch Scott at bj.scott@charter.net

Welcome to George Leonard's Shop!
George has been a member of the Guild since retiring in 2017. He has held the positions of Lumber Manager, Router Table Instructor, and Supervisor.

George previously had a shop in his basement, but over time he felt that he needed more space. Seems like it's a recurring theme with woodworkers. His wife was in complete agreement and was fully on board, as long as the shop looked like the house; otherwise, it might have been a no go. George expanded his basement shop into a beautiful 22' X 18' building. Although he subcontracted most of the work, he personally was able to complete about one third of the construction.

George, we want to know if your shop is always that clean and well organized! Thank you for sharing.



Birdhouse Contest

Get ready for our annual Birdhouse Contest to be held at our Monthly Meeting on April 1. It is open to adults, as well as those under the age of 18. This is a great activity to involve children and grandchildren. Prizes will be awarded in three different categories:

Functional - Best described as a working birdhouse. It will be judged on the following criteria, in the order listed: craftsmanship, functionality for birds, ability to be mounted, easy access for cleaning, type of material used, and aesthetics.

Decorative/Whimsical - Can be used indoors or outside, and not necessarily functional. It will be judged on the following criteria, in the order listed: aesthetics, imaginative theme, texture, color, composition, and craftsmanship.

“Green” - Think repurposed, environmentally friendly, and recycled. Can be functional and/or decorative.

Rules

Birdhouses must be made within the last year by the person entering the contest.

No birdhouses made from kits are permitted.

Birdhouses must be at least 75% made of wood.

You can submit a maximum of three birdhouses, but only one birdhouse can be submitted for each of the three categories.

All entries must be in good taste.

Entry forms will be available at the April 1 Monthly Meeting. Winners will be announced at the end of the meeting.

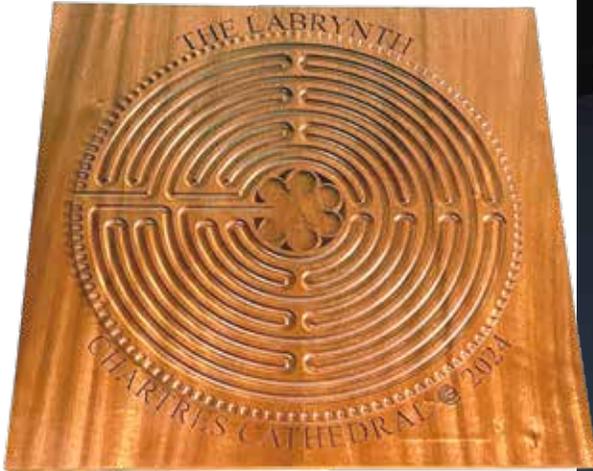
Use Your Spare Change - Bird Lovers Choice Award

Those attending the April Monthly Meeting are invited to vote for their favorite birdhouses before the meeting using their spare change. Each dollar you donate is worth one vote. Your donation will be used to purchase GWG shop supplies, such as sandpaper.

Contact Rosie Gaddy at rosiegaddy@yahoo.com with questions about the contest.



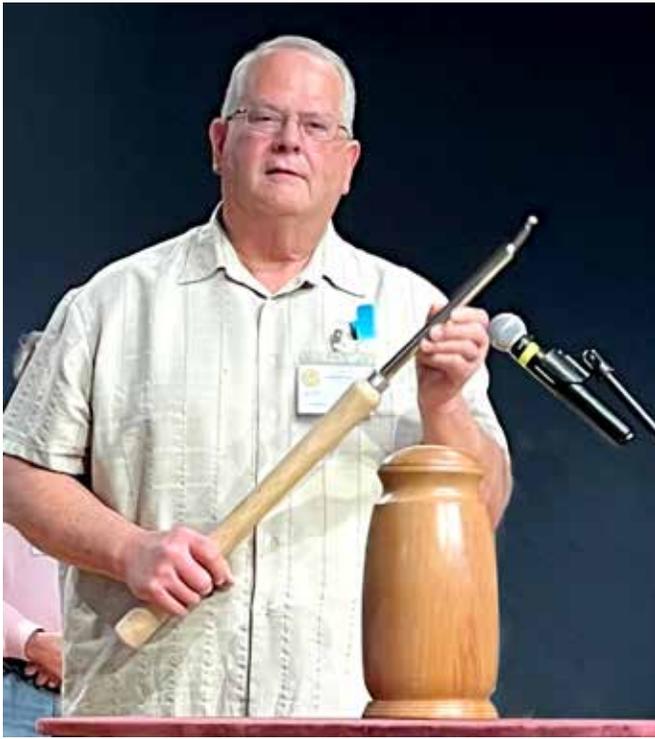
Member's Projects



Chuck Graham — Labrynth,
Sapele



Jim Schoonover — Boxes
Various Woods



David Gore — Cremains Urn
Bradford Pear and Maple



John Arnold — Octagon Box, Japanese
Cedar, Maple and Walnut.
Pencil Box, Rosewood, Birdseye Maple
and Curly Maple



Cliff Heitz — Lighted Shelves,
Tigerwood and Epoxy



Kellie Lockwood —
Vase
Cherry, Padauk,
Sapele, Purpleheart
and Curly Maple



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